

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-38 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 13, 27, and 32 being independent.

The Abstract, specification, and Claims 1-4, 8, 12-16, 21, 22, 24, 26-28, 30 and 32-35 have been amended. New Claims 37 and 38 have been added. Applicants submit that support for the amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Claim 1-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being vague and indefinite. Regarding the Examiner's objection to "image data using said image," Applicants respectfully point out that the rejected claims recite generating first verification data *for* said image data using said image data, and Applicants submit that there is nothing unclear about this language. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejection and without intending to narrow the scope of the claims, the objected to language has been amended to recite, for example, a unit adapted to generate first verification data using said image data and first information. Support for this feature can be found, for example, at least in Figs. 5A and 5B and the corresponding description at page 12, line 15 through page 14, line 15.

Regarding the Examiner's objection to "it is verified that," Applicants again traverse the propriety of the rejection but, nevertheless, have amended the claim language in view of the Examiner's comments, without intending to narrow the scope of the claims.

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. L. Klock', is written over a horizontal line.

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